

## BUTTERFLIES IN NORTH-EAST GREECE (28th JULY – 4th AUGUST 1994)

ANDREW WAKEHAM-DAWSON

*The Game Conservancy Trust, Fordingbridge, Hampshire SP6 1EF.*

### Introduction

GREECE has an interesting butterfly fauna which includes (1) representatives of the European sub-continent's fauna, (2) representatives of Asia-Minor's fauna and (3) endemic mountain species (Brown & Coutsis, 1978). The present paper lists the 84 species of butterfly found on three mountains in north-east Greece between 28th July and 4th August 1994. Of these, two species are not recorded on the lists of Bretherton (1967, 1968, 1970), Coutsis (1969, 1972, 1973), Dacie *et al.* (1970, 1972, 1979, 1982), Koutsaftikis (1974) and de Worms & Bretherton (1975). These are *Lycaena dispar rutila* Werneberg and the more recently described *Pseudochazara orestes* de Prins & van der Poorten.

### List of species

Key to symbols used in this list:

\*, identification confirmed by examination of male genitalia

CW, common with widespread distribution

CL, common with localised distribution

UL, uncommon with localised distribution

F, Mount Falakro near Drama

O, foothills of Mount Orvilos on the Greek-Bulgarian border

V, Mount Vrontous near Seres

D, deciduous woods, 500-1200m

M, maquis (arid scrub), 500-1000m

P, road through pine woods, c600m

R, flower-rich roadside in pine zone, 1700m

S1, lush stream valley, c800m

S2, lush stream valley through pine zone, 1600m

SA, sub-alpine pasture, 1700-2200m

SKI, ski-slope through pines to pasture, 1700-1800m

SP, stony pasture above tree-line, 1200-1400m

*Aglais urticae* L. – UL, F, V, SA, SKI.

*Agrodiaetus amanda* Schneider – A single male, F, D.

*A. escheri* Hübner – A single female, F, S1.

*A. thersites* Cantener – CL, F, M.

*Aphantopus hyperantus* L. – UL, F, S1.

*Arethusana arethusia* D. & S. – UL, V, M.

- Argynnis paphia* L. – Including female f. *valesina* Esper, CW, F, V, D, R, S1.  
*Aricia agestis* D. & S. – \*, CW, F, O, V, D, M, S1.  
*A. anteros* Freyer – CL, F, M, P, S1.  
*Artogeia mannii* Mayer – \*, CL, F, M, S1.  
*A. rapae* L. – CL, F, M, S1.  
*Boloria graeca* Staudinger – UL, F, SA (1700m-1900m).  
*Carcharodus alceae* Esper – \*, CL, F, M, S1.  
*Celastrina argiolus* L. – CL, F, M, SP.  
*Chazara briseis* L. – CW, F, V, D, M, S1, SKI.  
*Clossiana dia* L. – UL, F, S1.  
*Coenonympha arcania* L. – UL, V, M, SKI.  
*C. pamphilus* L. – CW, F, V, D, M, S1.  
*C. rhodopensis* Elwes – \*, UL, F, SA (1750-1900m).  
*Colias australis* Verity – UL, F, S1.  
*Colias crocea* Geoffroy – Including female f. *helice* Hübner, CW, F, V, M, R, S1.  
*Cupido minimus* Fuessly – CW, F, V, D, M, S1, SP.  
*Cyaniris semiargus* Rottemburg – UL, V, S2.  
*Cynthia cardui* L. – CW, F, M, S1, SA.  
*Erebia euryale* Esper – Males only, \*, UL, F, SA (1750m).  
*E. melas* Herbst. – Females rare, CL, F, SA (1700-1800m).  
*Erynnis tages* L. – CW, F, S1, D.  
*Eumedonia eumedon* Esper – UL, F, SA (1800m).  
*Everes alcetas* Hoffmannsegg – \*, UL, F, S1.  
*Fabriciana adippe* f. *cleodoxa* Ochsenheimer – UL, V, S2.  
*Heodes alciphron* Rottemburg – \*, UL, V, R, S2.  
*H. tityrus* Poda – CL, O, V, D, M.  
*H. virgaureae* L. – CL, V, R, S2.  
*Hipparchia aristaeus senthes* Fruhstorfer \*, CW, F, O, V, D, SKI.  
*H. fagi* Scopoli – \*, UL, F, P.  
*Hyponephele lycaon* Kühn. – \*, CL, F, SA, SP.  
*Inachis io* L. – UL, F, V, S1, SKI.  
*Iphiclides podalirius* L. – CW, F, V, D, M, S1.  
*Issoria lathonia* L. – CW, F, O, V, D, R, S2, SA, SKI.  
*Lampides boeticus* L. – UL, F, S1.  
*Lasiommata maera* L. – \*, UL, V, D.  
*L. megera* L. – CW, F, D, S1.  
*Leptidea sinapis* L. – CW, F, O, M, D.  
*Libythea celtis* Laicharting – CL, F, O, D, S1.  
*Limenitis reducta* Staudinger – CW, F, V, D, M.  
*Lycaeides idas* L. – \*, UL, V, SKI.  
*Lycaena dispar rutila* Werneburg – UL (probably second brood), F, S1. The male genitalia of this species are illustrated in Fig. 1a.  
*L. phlaeas* L. – CL, F, M, SA.

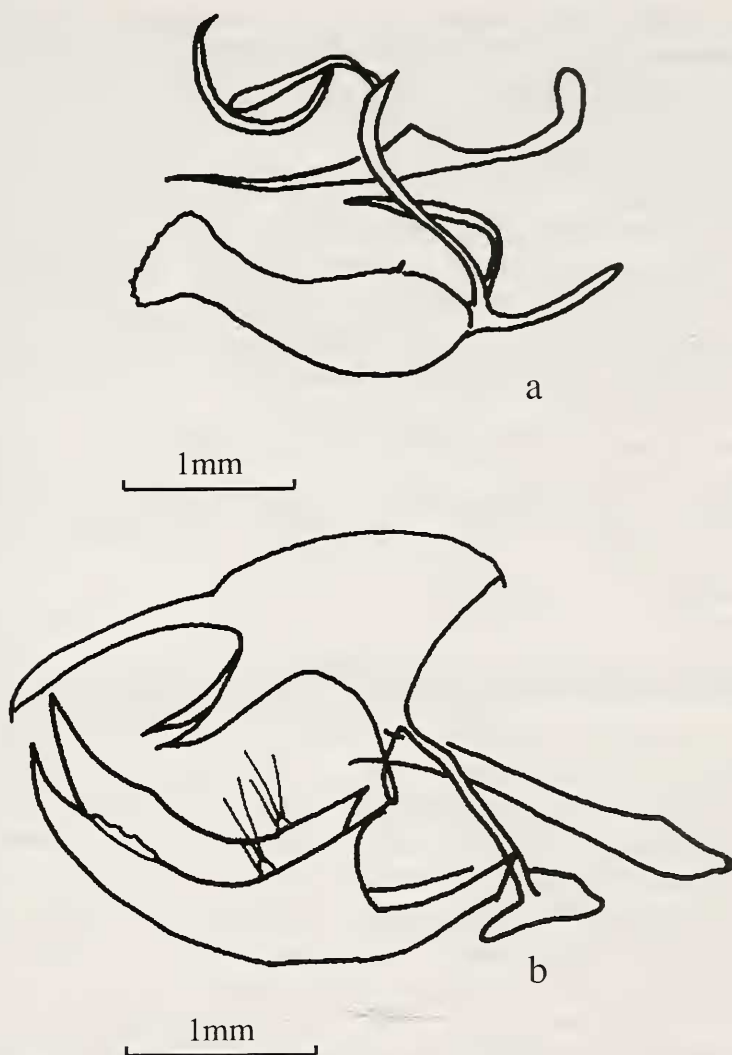


Fig. 1. (a) The male genitalia of *Lycaena dispar rutila* Werneberg, from north-east Greece in July/August 1994.  
 (b) The male genitalia of *Pseudochazara orestes* de Prins & van der Poorten, from north-east Greece in July/August 1994.

*Lysandra bellargus* Rottemburg – UL, F, M, S1.

*L. coridon* Poda – \*, CW, F, O, V, D, S1, SA.

*Maniola jurtina jurtina* L. – Females brightly coloured like *M. jurtina hispulla* Esper females, \*, CW, F, O, V, D, M, R, S1.

*Melanargia galathea* L. – Including f. *procida* Herbst, CW, F, V, D, SKI.

*M. larissa* Geyer – CL, F, M, SP.

*Meleageria daphnis* D. & S. – Including female f. *steeveni* Treitschke, CW, F, V, D, P, S1.

*Melitaea phoebe* D. & S. – UL, F, S1.

*M. didyma* Esper – A small race, \*, CL, F, M, S1.

- M. trivia* D. & S. – \*, CL, V, M.  
*Mesoacidalia aglaja* L. – CW, F, V, D, R, S1, SA.  
*Neohipparchia fatua* Freyer – \*, UL, F, M.  
*N. statilinus* Hufnagel – \*, UL, V, O, D.  
*Nordmannia ilicis* Esper – CL, F, P.  
*Nymphalis antiopa* L. – UL, V, SKI.  
*Ochlodes venatus* Turati – CL, F, M, S1, SP.  
*Palaeochrysophanus hippothoe leonhardi* Fruhstorfer – \*, a single male, V, R.  
*Pandoriana pandora* D. & S. – CW, F, V, R, S1, S2.  
*Pieris brassicae* L. – CW, F, V, M, S1, SA, SKI.  
*Plebejus argus* L. – \*, CW, F, V, M, S1, SA, SKI.  
*Plebicula dorylas* D. & S. – CL, F, M, S1, SA.  
*Polygonia c-album* L. – CW, F, V, D, R, S1.  
*P. egea* Cramer – UL, F, S1.  
*Polyommatus eroides* Frivaldski – CL, V, SKI.  
*P. icarus* Rottemburg – \*, CW, F, V, D, M, S1.  
*Pontia daplidice* L. – CL, F, M.  
*Pseudochazara orestes* de Prins & van der Poorten – \*, CL, F, D, SP. The male genitalia of this species are illustrated in Fig. 1b.  
*Pseudophilotes baton schiffermuelleri* Hemming – \*, CL, F, M.  
*Pyrgus armoricanus* Oberthür – \*, CW, F, V, M, P, S1, S2, SA (1700-1800m).  
*Pyronia tithonus* L. – CW, F, V, M, S1.  
*Satyrus ferula* F. – CL, F, V, SA (1700m), SKI.  
*Spialia orbifer* Hübner – \*, CL, F, S1.  
*Tarucus balkanicus* Freyer – UL, F, M.  
*Thymelicus acteon* Rottemburg – \*, UL, F, M.  
*T. flavus* Brünnich – UL, V, M.  
*T. lineola* Ochsenheimer – UL, V, SKI.  
*Vanessa atalanta* L. – CW, F, V, R, S1, SA.

### Acknowledgements

I thank the Greek Government for permission to conduct this study and collect material (Research License 76205/2348), and the Trustees and Staff of the British Museum (Natural History) for allowing the use of the National Collections and the Entomology Library for the present work.

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### ***Acontia lucida* Hufn. (Lep.: Noctuidae), the Pale Shoulder new to the Isles of Scilly and third record for British Isles.**

Following a period of gently south-easterly winds during the previous two days, we successfully recorded an interesting variety of migrants on the night of 5/6th August 1995. Included in our trap were *Palpita unionalis* Hbn. (Pyralidae), two *Rhodomestra sacraria* Linn., the Vestal (Geometridae) and singletons of the noctuids *Mythimna albipuncta* D. & S., the White Point and *Heliothis peltigera* D. & D., the Bordered Straw. At the same time both Icterine and Melodious Warblers were recorded on the island together with many more common migrant birds.

It was not until the night of 10/11th August that we were able to operate the trap again but the wait was worthwhile. The catch included another White Point, The Cosmopolitan (*Mythimna loreyi* Dup.) and an unfamiliar noctuid. We sent this specimen to Dr Frank Smith who, together with Adrian Spalding, determined it as the Pale Shoulder, *Acontia lucida*. Subsequent communications with Bernard Skinner revealed that not only was this the first record for the Isles of Scilly but only the third British record this century, the others being at West Bexington, Dorset on 5.viii.1994 and Dymchurch, Kent on the same date.

The moth has since been sent to Mr David Carter at the Natural History Museum. An examination of our mid-July to mid-August data for migrant species such as the Silver Y (*Autographa gamma* L.) and the Diamond-backed Moth (*Plutella xylostella* L.) (Figures 1 and 2) clearly indicate a large influx of moths during that period. This rise in numbers was not due to freak catching conditions as the almost uniform catches of our residents